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1743

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLN. OF: TAFT et al.
SERIAL NO.: 10/029,658
FILED: December 20, 2001
FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREPARING TISSUE...
GROUP: 1743
DOCKET: VMS 01.01

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-entitled matter, Applicant wishes to bring to the attention of the Patent Office an Official Action received in Applicants' corresponding EPO application. The references cited in the European Official Action are already of record in this case. Thus, additional copies are not being provided. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

This information Disclosure Statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR 1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitute prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR 1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. § 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits

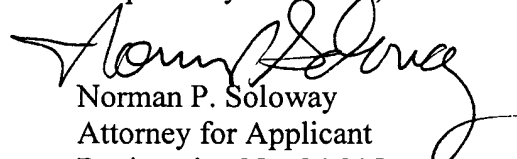
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a copy of the European Official Action by a foreign Examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a European patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of foreign Examiner or the claims of the European application under the laws of the country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the foreign Examiner's comments submitted therewith.

The enclosed Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three months of receipt of the European Official Action, as certified in the attached Certification for Information Disclosure Statement. Therefore, we believe there are no fees involved with this prior art disclosure statement. However, in the event there are any fees payable, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,


Norman P. Soloway
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 24,315

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 29, 2005 at Tucson, Arizona.

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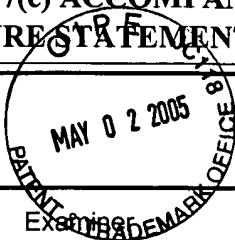
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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) ACCOMPANYING
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Docket No.
VMS 01.01

In Re Application Of: TAFT et al.



Application No. 10/029,658	Filing Date December 20, 2001	Examiner Cole, Monique T.	Customer No. 27667	Group Art Unit 1743	Confirmation No. 5110
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Invention: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PREPARING TISSUE SAMPLES FOR SECTIONING**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

This is a statement under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) in the above-identified application.

Check applicable statement herebelow:

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1)

- ☒ Each item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2)

- ☐ No item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned person, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.


Signature

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Dated: April 29, 2005

Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on

April 29, 2005

(Date)


Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Shauna Bronson

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

CC: